

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 23:44:44 1995
Message-Id: <n1410695049.95510@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: (long) Ants. for QRP depend on goals
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 19:44:44 EDT

Some questions on qrp antennas have turned into more general issues, and there was a statement that should be clarified:

Someone thought it was stated to stay away from verticals. Now that is an exaggeration, for it really depends on one's objectives, and the implementation, as to how well any antenna is going to work for you.

If you want to talk to your ham friend in the next town 20 mi. away, a HF vertical is NOT the best antenna. If you want to talk to any ham friend 2000 or more miles away, a vertical, PROPERLY installed may be the best low cost antenna, if you can't put up a gain antenna such as an array or beam, or a very high horizontal antenna several half waves up.

I think at a home QTH a mix of antennas is needed for different bands and distances, and FOREMOST you have to evaluate the reflectivity of local earth before choosing an antenna. That will affect how you install the antennas you choose. A vertical is definitely a primary long skip (DX) antenna, especially if it is modestly elevated, (six feet) off the earth, and installed with a built in counterpoise, or resonant radials. When elevated, only radials in four directions may be sufficient. Under some propagation conditions, I have had short skip and skip zone success at the same time with an elevated "half-wave" vertical, of the commercial models. A ground mounted quarter wave vertical is very dependent on the earth reflectivity, or requires an elaborate radial system to work well. The standard for this are the 120 radials under AM broadcast antennas. Folks with better "RF" earth grounds can use fewer radials.

A dipole antenna, center fed as an inverted V, has worked well to the short skip and in its favored two directions, to long skip. An inverted V of dipole or G5RV style may work in the skip zone where you want near vertical incidence to reach nearby to a few hundred miles. A 40 Meter horizontal dipole 30 some feet up has been found to not work well in the skip zone, ie. within 200 miles. (Signals were readable but weak, and likely were being dominated by longer skip signals.) The angle of the antenna to earth and its elevation affect the "horizontal antenna" performance. Sloping half wave dipoles have been used for DX work, and quarter wave slopers worked against a metal mast or tower "ground" have had good reports.

A fine DX antenna mainly in two directions is the half wave dipole for each band, erected horizontally, at least an electrical half wave or more above earth. But, this requires two supports of sufficient height, and the requisite distance between them. It will not give you optimum results off the favored directions. It will not fulfill the short range needs inside the skip zone in

an optimum manner.

For Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) coverage of one state on bands like 80, you may find the best antenna is a low dipole, or an insulated one laid upon the ground! A tuner would be advisable to match the impedance variation imposed by local ground conditions in these cases.

Received noise: The off center fed, near half wave vertical dipole, all band commercial antennas have been found to be quieter than base fed verticals by reviewers. (Gap- reviewed by Lew McCoy and others). This may be a combination of the "center" feed, and the run of coax inside the vertical forming an RF choke for local noise that would be heard on base feed, or even the capacitative grounding of the feed to the vertical top end, at the end of a matching stub. When installed as an elevated vertical, they work well as a compact antenna to work all bands, and all DX locations. They have been found to work well to both coasts from the central part of the U.S. If it was practical to erect true elevated full size vertical dipoles for all bands, I think they would be a most popular antenna for low cost DX work. They would work best with a clear space around them in all directions.

Now we come to single conductor horizontal wires: the quarterwave Marconi or untuned long wire antennas. Some have reported good success in the field or at home with them. However, they also have failed when used in a desert location, and for a long wire, (400 feet) in a tropical location. Why? Earth conductivity. In the desert you have dry sandy soils, a poor conductor. In the tropics you have near daily rain, but again the soil is a poor conductor because frequent heavy rain leaches the conductive salts out of the soil.

I suspect the areas where these have worked are those with good "RF" soil. Now how to get them to work elsewhere? The counterpoise is a neglected accessory to wire antennas. Like the radials of the verticals, a counterpoise provides the other half to go from an unbalanced system like the Marconi or long wire to the balanced system that works more like the dipole in that unattainable "free space". A counterpoise could be laid upon the ground under a portable horizontal wire and parallel to it. This would be the optimum reinforcement for the elevated portion of your antenna. However, you may find offsetting the counterpoise, or elevating it above ground will give better results in some directions over others, and this can be exploited to advantage. Much remains to be done in exploiting and finding the tricks of the counterpoise. The counterpoise was much used under early antennas, but added to complexity, and gave way to dipole designs for installation ease. It could not really be used in the air, thus the WW II trailing wire had to work against a metal plane fuselage for HF transmission. There probably is some good old information on using counterpoises that has been neglected since the dipole became popular. Much of the data on using reflectors for array or beam type antennas should apply when using counterpoises. A counterpoise can easily be made from insulated hook up wire. Anything that increases the area of our antennas will improve our qrp success.

However, blindly selecting an antenna that worked in a very different location from yours without attention to local conditions, will likely bring frustration or belief that "X", "Y", or "Z" antennas don't work.

The counterpoise can even have a dramatic effect at VHF where compact helical antennas are used. This can be demonstrated by taking a 2 M Handi Talkie on low power, and trying to hit a distant repeater. Often, when unsuccessful, the addition of a quarter wave counterpoise clipped to the ground of the connector will spell success.

For mobile qrp antennas, the short whips or helicals can be improved by adding insulated quarter wave wires to the base ground of the mobile antenna, and threading it even zig-zag fashion through the frame of the vehicle. This can be done no matter how long your whip antenna may be, for it likely is short for RF and does not work all that well against a non resonant vehicle body, which today may be mainly plastic.

In summary, pick an antenna whose area and angular patterns are suited to the communications you desire, and your available space. Be aware of the RF consequences of local earth, and supplement an unbalanced antenna with radials or a counterpoise. A balanced antenna works better for DX the higher you erect it. (A way to evaluate local earth as a reflector is to erect a test dipole cut by the standard formula for 10 or 15 meters, in the clear. Raise or lower its elevation parallel to earth until you see it read 70 ohms on an antenna bridge, at the center feedpoint. See if the elevation is close to the handbook values for a 70 ohm antenna. The amount off the chart values can give you insight into whether RF Ground is below physical ground at your location. This also can help you determine a correct formula for cutting dipoles for your location, in the future.)

The results for a higher frequency dipole in the clear should scale to lower frequency dipoles, if the area is still in the clear for the longer dipole.

Looking at the recent two part article on tuners in QST reminds one of the losses a tuner can inflict, even while providing an impedance transformation. It seems reasonable that to get the best result with qrp power, one would do well to use resonant antennas not requiring a tuner for the band in use. Carrying this thought along, perhaps one should design a high impedance link coupling to the final tank circuit to allow use of lower loss high impedance open wire line to feed dipoles, in the interests of having the least loss between the final and the antenna.

Has any qrp operator installed the rig at the antenna feed point, and keyed it remotely? Now that would be RF efficient!

72 and good Antenna experimenting!

Stuart K5KVH

rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 15:22:13 1995
Message-Id: <95May25.112113edt.14522-4+116@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: Administrivia: Digests
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 11:22:13 EDT

Gang,

The problem with the occasional odd-looking Digest some of you see has been repaired.

/jim

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 17:45:48 1995
Message-Id: <95May25.134420edt.14522-3+118@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: Administrivia: lost mail
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 13:45:48 EDT

Gang,

Due to brain failure on my part, about 100 of you didn't receive about the last ten postings. They're on their way to those that didn't get them. My sincere apologies. Also, those 100 didn't see Chuck's post about the QRP_CALL command, so here it is again. *sigh*

/jim

>Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 12:17:24 -0500
>From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
>Message-Id: <199505251717.MAA12586@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
>To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
>Subject: The List

Gang,

I'm sure some of you just wondered why all the fuss of having you each and everyone resign up for the new server. It might have been an a minor irritation and some have the attitude that in this computer age

we should just automate it. Well, true, it could have been done that way, but there was some missing info.

So, just to show you how important the information is, try this:

send to LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU an email with the following in the body:

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RUN QRP-L X QRP_CALL
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If you don't appreciate what you get back, then you're living on the moon. :-)

For those that didn't follow instructions for the original signup, you will find that you are missing from the list. Shame on you. You will need to unsubscribe and then resubscribe (yes, I know it's a pain) and fill out the line with your name and call.

So, print out the results you get and keep them next to the QRP station. You can immediately look to see if the person you are talking to on the other end of a QSO is a member of this group. The numbers are growing daily.

You might run into some of these individuals on 30M during the next 3 months.

We can thank Mr. Henry "Smitty" Smith, NA5K, for the program to do this. I have met Smitty and he is a member of the NorTex Club. He works a lot of mobile CW to and from work each day. Look for him during commute times around the QRP freqs. I've caught him several times on 40M early in the a.m.

And during the first few days many thanks to Jim Eshleman who is doing all the work behind the great landscape of the superhighway. It is not easy and it is time consuming to meet the demands of any group where not everyone is going to be happy.

Thanks for you support, each and everyone. Now dust of the rig(s) and get on the air.

cu there

dit dit

p.s. behaviour of program may be subject to change
and other options may appear. stay tuned.

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 18:21:38 1995
Message-Id: <199505251821.NAA12777@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: Re: Administrivia: lost mail
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 14:21:38 EDT

Jim,

It's OK, it is OK. Just remember what
Abe Lincoln said. "Few will remember what is
said and done here today." I have to keep telling
myself that everytime I see a crisis or am in the
middle of what seems like one.

Works for me.

dit dit es tn timer

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 06:42:34 1995
Message-Id: <199505250640.XAA00496@vr1000.West.Sun.COM>
From: myers@bigboy73.west.sun.com (Dana Myers)
Subject: CB to 10/12m change: errata
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 02:42:34 EDT

Hey folks,

I previously posted a note suggesting that PLL CB radios use a 10KHz reference frequency. Well, to be precise, a single loop synthesizer that does *not* use a mix-down scheme, which is the common arrangement as far as I can tell, must use a 5KHz reference even though the channels are spaced every 10KHz. This is because the channels are on integer multiples of 5KHz, not 10KHz (i.e. 27.405MHz). Going from 5KHz to 10KHz or more can have some real advantages, but you must redesign the loop filter, etc.

Dana
Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 10:40:20 1995
Message-Id: <199505251235284844.iapizloj@bi.ehu.es>
From: "Jon Iza" <iapizloj@bi.ehu.es>
Subject: FYI: interesting paper on QRP
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 06:40:20 EDT

Hi, gang
the subject line is a little tricky but I have no more space...
On Proceedings of the IEEE, April's issue, pp. 544-569, there is an Invited
paper entitled: Low-Power Radio-Frequency IC's for Portable
Communications, hence, QRP :-) by Asad A. Abidi.
I think it's worth reading, and it will be easy to find on a nearest
library.
Share and enjoy!

jon
Dr. Jon Iza / Chem.& Environ. Engngn. / University of the Basque Country
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Alameda de Urquijo s/n Fax +34 (9)4 441 4041
E-48013 Bilbao, Spain Ham ea2sn <= lowercase: I'm a qrp'er!
Las necesidades de uno estan en proporcion directa
al cuadrado de su incompetencia

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 13:23:53 1995
Message-Id: <950525092238_11806817@aol.com>
From: CamQRP@aol.com
Subject: Re: HootOwl Coming Up Soon
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 09:23:53 EDT

Joe and All -

The Hootowl is not intended to be a "Homebrew" contest, and as such there are
no bonus points for using homebrew gear. Check out the contest listing on
page 30 of the April QQ.

On the previous page, in the listing for the Summer Homebrew Sprint, the
Bonus Points and definition are included in rules listing.

I may have confused the issue when I transformed one set of rules into

And one last note, if you note a discrepancy between the rules as published in the QQ and any other radio magazine, ignore the other magazine. They sometimes don't print what I send them. QQ rules rule.

Cam N6GA

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--=====_801420621==_
Content-Type: application/mac-binhex40; name="HOOTOWLC"
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="HOOTOWLC"
```

```
(This file must be converted with BinHex 4.0)
:~%K26e429da$!&4&@&4dG(Kd!!!!!"%J!!!!!2Rp$3dJ)#!J)#!J)#!J)#"48P!
J39*$55")EfPd'pHe#"6F(*TER30$84KG'8k)#"0BANJ-MJX)$%j16809'PYC6S
J)$)-$!Y-M3'-#"-6d0"6#"858e&!d04AKMD'&ZCf8k)#!0)#!0)#"*CL"jEh8
JBA*P)'ePE@*PFL"[CL""8N0*)#dJ8P08,#"6G'&dC5p3FQpFd@jMC5p$Eh9ZG(*
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dD@pZ)'eKH5"LC5"hEh*VC@3JEfiJE@pbC5"dD'&Z)'pZC5"LB@jN)'C[FL"48dm
JF'pTER4c$5!J)#!J)'&ZC#"68%-JBh*PC'Pd,Jd08'phCA)J6A9XG'P'E'PPFMS
0$!J-J-#db06"Y9b!J25!a03dJ)$)e-'eA,6&A)$dJ-6!0)#!a9bde9b!J)#!p)$F
0)#"[GQ9b)$9A)#!p)$%0$90eCfGPFh4PC#" 'FQ9aG@9ZBfPPFcS0$!J)#!J)#!
J)#!J)#"(C@jPF0&X)#!J60pFd@0P$6%f-#"0CA4PFR-J)$%i-6!J5dKk$5!i-#"

```


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J0NdT\$(pb)%a[,8*KEQ3S-6B`65`i-%dX)#BJ0\$`0+5iJ)%0PFR4TCQPMBA4PFb"
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bG'9bE(NZ\$3e1Eh4P)(4SBA3JG'KP)(4TE@8JDA-JGQ9bH5"TEA"[FR4KER3Z)#!
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XH5")3L'JBR9d\$AGP*faX)'aPG#"\$B@dJBfaKFPQH5"dD'&d)'PZ)'%JF'pcG'P
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KFh9bC5"jEh9b)'peG("eG#"`EhGPFL`0G'KKG#`hD@aX)(G[FQXZ)#`*CL"ZEh3
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J6Qpd)'&XGf&jFb"dFR9P,#"LGA3JDA3JDA-JC@&cH5"dEb"YC@&cGA*P)'&ZC#"
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JG'KP)(0eE@eKFRNJCQpbE5iJ)%NJD'&N)'pZC5`JBR9d)'KPH5"TG#"NDA0KF("
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['eKDf8JFh9bC5"dD'&d)(4SCANJE@9PG#"SDA-JBh*TG'PMB@`JCAPP,L!J1Ld
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c)\$4A,Jd06QpdC5"dD'Pc)'Pc)'%JBfpZG'9cG#iJ)\$SY+5!J9'KPFQ8JBA*P)(4
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XE#"NFQp`)'pQCL"cD@GZD@CTBf&ZG'aj)'jPH(3JGf9PDbiJ)\$SY+3d0C'Pd)'4
TG!dY,3e\$D(9MDb""C'&YFb!J5c9'6b!J3e!Y0M!J)'&NB@ec3(0RD5jMEfd0\$4'
C!!!!:

--=====801420621==_
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

--=====801420621==_--

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 13:20:32 1995
Message-Id: <Pine.OSF.3.91.950525081856.24676C-100000@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>

From: Al Suttles <asuttles@tenet.edu>
Subject: Re: Hootowl Sprint
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 09:20:32 EDT

Bob, what frequency/cies will you be using?

Al Suttles AB5ZB
Austin, TX

On Wed, 24 May 1995, Bob Cutter wrote:

> Don't forget the Hootowl Sprint, Sunday night, May 28, 2000-2400 hrs.,
> local time.
>
> I plan to operate from Chaco Canyon, NM.
>
> 72, Bob KI0G
> Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO
>
> KI0G
>
> bcutter@teal.csn.net
>
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 11:26:49 1995
Message-Id: <1995May25.072546.11828@wb3ffv.ampr.org>
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: K5F0 coming to Washington DC area
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 07:26:49 EDT

Chuck Adams, K5F0, is coming to Silver Spring, MD again, and this time his system is letting us know in advance rather than holding all his outgoing mail until after he gets back home...isn't the computer age wonderful? :-) He says he'll be at the Holiday Inn in Silver Spring on Saturday, but not really available until Monday. Accordingly, we have pretty much agreed that we'll meet him at the Holiday Inn at 1900 hours local time on Mon and then proceed to some nearby eatery above the McBurger-class. So far we have WA8MCQ, W03B and W6TOY planning on it, and anyone else who wants to come is quite welcome. (Brian--how about it?) For those of you interested but not sure where it is, Silver Spring is a suburb of Washington just to the north across the DC line but inside the beltway. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:29:50 1995
Message-Id: <199505251923.MAA16749@interval.interval.com>
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: NC40A revision B power measurements
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:29:50 EDT

These measurements were taken with the NC40A revision B circuit changes that I just made, which include changing the transmit buffer to a J309 (this device is HOT--about twice the transconductance of the 2N4416, and even a bit higher than the J310).

Typical numbers for the NorCal 40A running at 14 volts are:

- 2 watts out with drive set to about 80% clockwise,
PA collector current 185mA, PA efficiency approx. 77%,
Total transceiver current on transmit: 221mA
- 3 watts out with drive set to max clockwise
PA collector current 285mA, PA efficiency approx. 75%,
Total transceiver current on transmit: 323mA

Of course, many will run the rig off 12 to 13 volts, in which case the maximum output will likely be closer to 2 watts than 3. Also, you could probably get up to 5 watts by using a 2:1 broadband transformer rather than the RF choke at the PA collector; this would provide a better match from the PA to the low-pass filter at higher power levels. There was a QRPP article last year on this modification as made to a NorCal 40.

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 20:49:10 1995
Message-Id: <9505252047.AA20921@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: Re: NC40A revision B power measurements
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 16:49:10 EDT

> Typical numbers for the NorCal 40A running at 14 volts are:
>
> - 2 watts out with drive set to about 80% clockwise,
> PA collector current 185mA, PA efficiency approx. 77%,
> Total transceiver current on transmit: 221mA
>
> - 3 watts out with drive set to max clockwise
> PA collector current 285mA, PA efficiency approx. 75%,
> Total transceiver current on transmit: 323mA
>

If what you say is true...

The total efficiency (power out / power in) for:

- 1 - $2w / (14v * .221A) = 64.6\%$
- 2 - $3w / (14v * .323A) = 66.3\%$

The rig is more efficient with the drive set to max. I don't know how the parts would feel about that...

73

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Internet: adam@libertynet.org

My parents tell me that I just take up time and space. It's true -
I'm into relativity theory.

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

Version: 2.6.2

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=J0fv

-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 21:45:32 1995

Message-Id: <199505252139.OAA07188@interval.interval.com>
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: Re: NC40A revision B power measurements
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 17:45:32 EDT

Adam, thanks for noting the discrepancy.

I calculated power out from the P-P voltage using a scope accurate to about 1 volt, or +/- 6% accuracy in the wattage measurement. Since I was using an accurate digital multimeter to read the current, I have to believe that the voltage measurement error is what caused the "unlikely" situation as you pointed out (below). I haven't had much luck using RF probes to do this measurement, either. (Anyone have ideas on how to more accurately measure power output than using a scope or wattmeter, and not spending an arm and a leg doing it?)

If you assume the worst-case error of 6%, my actual output at the 3-watt level could be anywhere from 2.82 to 3.18 watts. This is of course not counting any errors due to harmonic energy, load resistor inaccuracy, voltage drop in the current meter shunt, etc.

On the other hand, this is only +/- 0.26dB.

73,
Wayne

>If what you say is true...
>
>The total effeciency (power out / power in) for:
>
> 1 - $2w / (14v * .221A) = 64.6\%$
> 2 - $3w / (14v * .323A) = 66.3\%$
>
>The rig is more effecient with the drive set to max...

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 21:07:45 1995
Message-Id: <01HQXCJE4JS2QPGUHB@tntech.edu>
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: Norcal 40 power
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 17:07:45 EDT

>
> > Typical numbers for the NorCal 40A running at 14 volts are:
> >
> > - 2 watts out with drive set to about 80% clockwise,
> > PA collector current 185mA, PA efficiency approx. 77%,
> > Total transceiver current on transmit: 221mA
> >
> > - 3 watts out with drive set to max clockwise
> > PA collector current 285mA, PA efficiency approx. 75%,
> > Total transceiver current on transmit: 323mA
> >
>
> If what you say is true...
>
> The total efficiency (power out / power in) for:
>
> 1 - $2w / (14v * .221A) = 64.6\%$
> 2 - $3w / (14v * .323A) = 66.3\%$
>
> The rig is more efficient with the drive set to max. I don't know how the
> parts would feel about that...

well mine puts out about 3-3.6 watts depending on where you are on
the band.. it is not turned up all the way and it seems very happy
and performs super.. this is off a only-partially charged 4ah gel
cell and has been running for hours and hours without having to
recharge the battery.. kinda wanta see how long it will go.

73

Jeff

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 13:52:23 1995
Message-Id: <01HQWX7D5Z0IQPGL9N@tntech.edu>
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: Norcal 40 Vs. Explorer
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 09:52:23 EDT

> >My birthday is coming up and my wife wants to buy me a QRP kit. Being new to
> >QRP, I need some advice. She said she would like to spend about \$100 to \$150.
> >Should I tell her to buy the NorCal 40A (from Wilderness Radio) or OHR Explorer
> >or something else?
>

Well I have built both Norcal radios. The first one was abducted by a local ham that designs QRP rigs and just fell in love with it.. so I bought one of the second round Norcal 40s. It is now on my bench being powered off a small gel cell.. I use it almost everyday and it just doesn't seem to need much feeding. I recently had to sell off most of my radio collection. The Norcal 40 is still there.. I have an old bug hooked up to it. In my non-technical opinion, you operate rigs and each seems to have its own personality. I have done many reviews of QRP kits and for some reason the Norcal 40 has always been one of my favorites.. it just is so cute and works great.. I ALWAYS get very favorable reports... last nite a guy I had a long QSO with was so impressed he ended up turning his rig down from 100 watts to 1 watt early on in the QSO...

On the other side, Oak Hills makes fantastic kits in my opinion. They all seem to work extremely well. My only criticism has been the larger size. They use top quality parts and their instructions are excellent and I believe you get a lot for your money. The explorer along with the Norcal 40 are 2 of the best beginners kits I have every come across.

73

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 17:26:50 1995
Message-Id: <199505251725.MAA12604@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: OHR Explorer 40M
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 13:26:50 EDT

Got one of the new models from OHR today via UPS.

Same as old one except for two mods.

1. The Molex power connector has been replaced with the standard barrel connector that we all have on the Sierra and NC40a's. A plus for me.
2. The PC Board is the BEST that I've seen. It is done by the same company that does the Sierra and NorCal 40a boards. There is no, I repeat, no variance in registration of the solder mask and

silk screen with the holes. It is perfect. P
E R F E C T.

Sale price is \$119.95 + \$5.50 S&H(USofA) <\$9 Canada>
In fact, OHR is having their Summer Sale.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 16:06:04 1995
Message-Id: <199505251605.LAA12213@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: Oooops
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 12:06:04 EDT

Gang,

Sorry about that. Yesterday I tried to move the
Novices up. Hey, they do CW and I think they should
be able to go anywhere with the code. :-)

	CW	NOVICE(CW)	SSB
160M	1.810		
80M	3.560		3.985
40M	7.040	7.110	7.285
40M	7.030	(G-QRP)	
30M	10.106		
30M	10.116	(G-QRP)	
20M	14.060		14.285
15M	21.060	21.110	21.385
12M	24.900		24.985
10M	28.060	28.110	28.885
6M	50.360		50.385

I don't have anything for 17M, but that doesn't mean
anything.

I stopped at Sam's this morning to pick up a couple more
of those fantastic Panasonic 9V NiCads and I'm sorry to
report that Sam's no longer carries rechargeable batteries
of any time. Bummer.

In the spirit of wishing to help everyone, I have placed in pub/listserv/qrp-l/forms directory files called, page1.ps, page2.ps, page3.ps, and page4.ps. These are log forms for QRP ARCI contests. The reason for four pages; simple, the first has lines 1-25, second page for 26-50, third page for 51-75, and the last page for 76-00. There is room to add a digit in front of the 00 for whichever 100 increment for those of you who are really tearing up the airwaves with rapid fire contest exchanges. gl n tst (contest abbreviation for 'good luck in the contest'). Copy these, print them, and give them to your friends. I'll try in the next 24 hours to get a summary sheet in PostScript form too. I had one at one time, but alas I can't find it in the 4GB of storage that I have.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:05:13 1995

Message-Id: <950525150409_11972893@aol.com>

From: JessQRP@aol.com

Subject: QRP Antenna

Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:05:13 EDT

I have been following this line for a bit and find it veryh interesting. Brian Carling notes that you should avoid a vertical at all costs, why?

I have used dipoles and long wires and G5RV multi banders (worst of the group I might add, but ok as long as you don't have room for monoband dipoles) and currently using an R7 vertical with my SWL-40. The bottom line of the whole deal is that as long as you have the most efficient antenna possible (read as big, long, as low an SWR as possible) mounted as high as possible, you will do just fine. Verticals work well as good comprmise antennas for working local as well as DX, dipoles are great because they are quieter that verticals, but not as loud to DX. There is no such thing as a free lunch. If you are going to be working a single band, or a couple of bands, then a monoband dipole, delta loop, x beam, vertical, half square, etc., will serve you well. If you want to work a lot of bands and don't have a lot of real estate to hang wires, then a good multiband vertical with a good ground radial system will serve you as well. Just in my non-scientific experience, I ran a well tuned monoband dipole for 40 meters at 50 feet for about a year, and then put in a R7 vertical and could switch back and forth between the 2 for comparison. The R7 always had more QRN, but the signals were also always louder expect for very short skip (less than 600 miles) and the R7 for

transmit would always equal or exceed the dipole to 1000 miles for transmit, but at distances greater than that, for DX, the R7 blew the dipole in the weeds. A freind of mine has a Mosely PR067 at 80 feet with 2 elements on 40 and I work 80 % of the DX that he works at 100 watt QRO levels. It is really more dependent on skills and ears and perserverence then power (QRP forever!).

Bottom line. Put up the most efficient antenna you have room for (big, high, low SWR) and have fun. And if someone says that there is no way you can crack a huge pile up to 7P8 (Lesotho) with 1 watt into a R7 vertical, spit in their eye and prove them wrong!

I have gotten 20 countries and about 18 states with the NN1G SWL 40 all on 1 1/2 watts into an R7 on the ground. Not bragging, just give whatever a try but the main thing is to have fun!

72/73 Jess N0TFI

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 14:09:16 1995
Message-Id: <199505251408.JAA18380@ns.onramp.net>
From: cmassey@onramp.net (Cleve Massey)
Subject: QRP Plus
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 10:09:16 EDT

I gather from the posts the mass order from this fine group have not been shipped from INDEX LABS...would anyone be interested in bailing out...I am very interested in getting a QRP Plus in fairly short order as the summer is getting busy with travel and it would be great to take along...

Hope to operate from Haiti the end of June during the elections...pursuing the necessary forms, etc. today...will be there a week or so with access to the roof of a hotel high on a hill...wish me luck...

cleve/wd5bor

Some people never find it
Some only pretend
But I just want to live
Happily ever after, now and then

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:43:44 1995
Message-Id: <9505251848.AA14271@slugbt.zso.dec.com>
From: rehm@zso.dec.com
Subject: Re: QRP Plus
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:43:44 EDT

> I gather from the posts the mass order from this fine group have not been
> shipped from INDEX LABS...would anyone be interested in bailing out.

Add me to the "bail out list" too!

/eric rehm
KJ7AE
Seattle
rehm@zso.dec.com
(206) 865-8904 (w)

p.s. Status of Index Labs QRP+ production and group order

I called Bruce Franklin at Index Labs today. (It's a local call...)

Current status of the group QRP+ order: Index Labs is now
Working through the order. They've shipped a few already. A few
more will go out tomorrow. By the end of next week bulk of the
group order will be shipped.

In about 6 weeks, the recently doubled QRP+ production capacity will
allow Bruce to fill his other backlogged orders. At that time (mid-July),
he's willing to entertain another QRP-L (discounted) group purchase.
(He will not consider a discounted group order until then because he doesn't
feel like he can ship them in the timely fashion that he would like.)

/eric rehm

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:28:04 1995
Message-Id: <9505251927.AA10809@garnet.inel.gov>
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: QRP Stuff for sale
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:28:04 EDT

To QRP List -- I picked the following from packet last night:

1) Two QRP rigs for sale:

- a) LCK 20M Transceiver (unbuilt) from KANGA Products. Superhet receiver and up to 3W Xmit out. \$70 plus shipping.
- b) Ramsey 40M RCVR and XMTR in small Radio Shack boxes. RCVR is DC, XMTR about 1W out. Components in place for QSK, but currently configured with manual T/R switch. \$45 plus shipping.

Contact Rick, WA8RXI at (313) 561-4839 (Taylor, MI)

2) HW-8 -- works FB, has a few scratches, no mods except for internal holder for C-cells (battery). With original Heath manual and assembly instructions. \$95 plus shipping.

Contact Keith, KE2DI at (716) 494-1230 (western NY)

NOTE: DO NOT contact ME about this stuff; I'm just passing along the information for the benefit of those not on packet!

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 22:40:40 1995
Message-Id: <abeab68b0602100331d0@[129.74.35.16]>
From: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu (Steve Hideg)
Subject: QRP-L Resource Page
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 18:40:40 EDT

The QRP-L Resource page is coming together.

I have Jerry Sy's photos from Dayton '95 out there. I'm getting my photos out there. And I now have a link to the qrp-l directory on FTP.LEHIGH.EDU on there.

<http://ncc1701-d.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/index.html>

I hope to get a more palatable DNS name for this system soon. When that happens, it will be announced here.

--Steve

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of University Computing Telephone: (219) 631-EXAM
G034 Computing Center/Math Building E-mail: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu
University of Notre Dame URL: <http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/>
Notre Dame, IN 46556 Ham Radio: N8HSC/9

"This isn't your father's Internet anymore."

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 21:31:39 1995
Message-Id: <199505252130.QAA13420@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: Research Wanted
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 17:31:39 EDT

Someone to go back through their issues of 73 magazine and look for an article by Don H. Johnson, WB6MXD, entitled "A Different Kind of Charger". Should be within the last four years, but heck, I can't guarantee it. It's a Gel-Cell charger based on four transistors, a few diodes, caps, resistors, and 3 LEDs.

If we can get Don's permission and 73's, then we could put it (the schematic and parts list out for everyone to HB).

It is the Tejas RF Technology Model 8101 Charger that was going for \$20 for board and onboard parts. Uses a typical Radio Shack 12.6V CT 1.2A transformer #273-1352.

Your help appreciated. My fax number is (214) 788-1372.
Deadline noon tomorrow TX time (CDT).

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri May 26 00:30:07 1995
Message-Id: <2FC4A029@sdcwinn.daytonoh.attgis.com>
From: "Doyle, Ron" <doyler@uh2297p01.daytonoh.attgis.com>

Subject: Results of the SSB QRP Fox Hunts 1994-95

Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 20:30:07 EDT

Thanks for the opportunity and the recognition on qrp-l.

Steve writes:

>prizes are courtesy of Warren AD4ZE and myself...thank you, Warren.

You 2 are the right examples of ham operator and promoting the hobby. Good job guys!

Chuck, k5fo, Steve, ab4el, and Warren, ad4ze should all get maximum kudos from the rest of us for organizing and sponsoring 2 fun filled events. They are showing us by example how Amateur Radio should be done.

I know there are a lot more of you out there providing the right examples to the rest of us. To all of you, Thanks! And I look forward to following your examples.

>From one who has benefited by Amateur Radio and those who are in it and grateful for the opportunity.

73 de

Ron Doyle, N8VAR

AT&T GIS - Dayton

Work (513) 445-3179

Home (513) 237-0790

<Ronald.Doyle@DaytonOH.ATTGIS.COM> or

<RonaldDoyle@Ichange.com>

Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:49:38 1995

Message-Id: <199505251949.PAA55699@nss1.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

From: pelt@vt.edu (Randy Pelt)

Subject: satellite tracking software

Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:49:38 EDT

Does anyone know where I can get a copy of software (Mac) for tracking satellites? I would like to try this russian rs-12 satellite. I have something called orbitrack but it doesn't have the rs-12 info on it. Anybody using something like this for the Mac???

Thanks

```
*Ranson J. Pelt *
*Internal Audit Manager *
*Virginia Tech 0328 *
*Blacksburg, VA 24061 *
*(703) 231-9475 FAX (703) 231-4681 *
* *
*QST de nz4i ex w4wyt Semper Fi *
*****
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 12:33:11 1995
Message-Id: <01HQWUM6PUTAHTRWYV@ADMIN.Rose-Hulman.EDU>
From: "David Moody, KD8NY" <MOODY@admin.rose-hulman.edu>
Subject: Re: Small Wonder Labs Phone#
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 08:33:11 EDT

IN%"Bensondj@aol.com" writes:

```
>I just heard from a Small Wonder Day Care center (- I like them already
> ;- ) located elsewhere in Connecticut. It turns out they've been getting
>*many* calls for me, including a few from overseas! They were very happy
to
>hear from me, and as a consequence, S.W.L. will appear in Directory
>Assistance listings shortly to correct this confusion. If you need to
reach
>me in the interim, you can try my home number (before 9:30PM Eastern,
>please):
```

How does that work now? Once you hit first grade, you are QR0! ;-)
Then there are all of us who are QRP inside. :-)

So for contest purposes, kids <= 5 yrs get the QRP multiplier, and everybody knows that kids are truly homebrew, so I guess they get that bonus. Now don't argue about that truly homebrew vs. kit situation. You build them yourself, they come with no instructions, their receivers can be very selective, and they can put out a signal that can be heard for quite a distance. They require positive feedback to keep them going, and some negative feedback to keep them from wildly running away. ;-) :-)

It must be getting close to Friday. That's my two milliwatts worth...

72, David Moody, KD8NY, C'mon Field Day

```
-----  
David A. Moody           | E-mail: David.Moody@Rose-Hulman.edu  
Admin. Programmer/Analyst | Finger: mgrdam@crux.Rose-Hulman.edu  
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. | Amateur Call: KD8NY (CW QRP) ex-WB9MMD  
Terre Haute, IN  USA  47803 | (VMS Rules!!! (but RSTS was fun.))  
Wk Ph:  812.877.8183      |  
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Any facts expressed within belong to everybody.
Any opinions expressed within are my own and are not
necessarily the same as my employer, family, friends, etc.
It is up to you to know the difference.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:31:59 1995
Message-Id: <199505251931.NAA00926@teal.csn.net>
From: bcutter@csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: Sorry!
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:31:59 EDT

It was pilot error, pure and simple. Please excuse the text file I spread
all over the world about the Hootowl Sprint.

72, Bob
Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 17:38:03 1995
Message-Id: <9504258014.AA801423297@CCGATE.HAC.COM>
From: ssalgaller@ccgate.hac.com
Subject: Suggested Semi Sources
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 13:38:03 EDT

Mfg. listing (continued):

Comlinear CLC449 IP3 +30dBm @70 MHz (800)776-0500
 OA-14 App. note on high IP3 op-amp designs.

Harris HFA1100 IP3 +30dBm @ 100MHz (800)442-7747

Allegro A3848EEQ Dual conversion AM radio IC;
S/B possible to use for SSB/CW (?)
(503) ALL-EGRO

Supertex VQ1001 Quad VMOS array; use for active mixer-
S/B possible to build a +60 dBm mixer(?)
(800) 222-9884 (USA)
3 (CA)

Elantec EL2072C IP3 +30dBm @75 MHz (800) 333-6314

As I've said, I'm sure someone smarter than me could design
a hot QRP rig with these parts. Let me know if you do !

73's
Stephen S.
WA3ZGT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 11:23:46 1995
Message-Id: <2a6.25720.500@acenet.com>
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Subject: Thank you for change
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 07:23:46 EDT

From: brian.carling@acenet.com

JL>With the change yesterday, I can now see who sent the message and re=
spond to

JL>them and/or to qrp-1 as needed. Previously, the sender was totally =
(!) hidd

JL>from me. I could only see qrp-1 as the sender.

JL>I strongly like the change.

JL>Thank you.

JL>Jim Larsen

JL>AL7FS

JL>Anchorage, Alaska

JL>jlarsen@alascocom.com

Now if we could JUST get it to send out who the message is _TO_

AND the fact that it is a qrp-l message, I could really follow what is going on here!!

=FE SLMR 2.1a =FE Can I run Stacker on my VISA?

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 17:18:40 1995
Message-Id: <199505251717.MAA12586@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: The List
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 13:18:40 EDT

Gang,

I'm sure some of you just wondered why all the fuss of having you each and everyone resign up for the new server. It might have been an a minor irritation and some have the attitude that in this computer age we should just automate it. Well, true, it could have been done that way, but there was some missing info.

So, just to show you how important the information is, try this:

send to LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU an email with the following in the body:

RUN QRP-L X QRP_CALL

If you don't appreciate what you get back, then you're living on the moon. :-)

For those that didn't follow instructions for the original signup, you will find that you are missing from the list. Shame on you. You will need to unsubscribe and then resubscribe (yes, I know it's a pain) and fill out the line with your name and call.

So, print out the results you get and keep them next to the QRP station. You can immediately look to see if the person you are talking to on the other end of a QSO is a member of this group. The numbers are growing daily.

You might run into some of these individuals on 30M during the next 3 months.

We can thank Mr. Henry "Smitty" Smith, NA5K, for the program to do this. I have met Smitty and he is a member of the NorTex Club. He works a lot of mobile CW to and from work each day. Look for him during commute times around the QRP freqs. I've caught him several times on 40M early in the a.m.

And during the first few days many thanks to Jim Eshleman who is doing all the work behind the great landscape of the superhighway. It is not easy and it is time consuming to meet the demands of any group where not everyone is going to be happy.

Thanks for you support, each and everyone. Now dust of the rig(s) and get on the air.

cu there

dit dit

p.s. behaviour of program may be subject to change and other options may appear. stay tuned.

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 19:03:02 1995
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.90.950525135920.23517A-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>
From: Joe Spencer <jspencer@metronet.com>
Subject: Re: The List
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:03:02 EDT

Chuck,
Just used the RUN QRP-L X QRP_CALL feature....G R E A T!!!!!!!!!!

Also took less than 2 minutes for the answer to post to my mail.

73/72 Joe

Joe Spencer KK5NA . .
jspencer@metronet.com

QRP ARCI-8781 NORCAL-1179 NORTEX
Arlington, TX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu May 25 13:45:36 1995
Message-Id: <950525094417_11577258@aol.com>
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: Re: Yer a bunch of cheapskates!
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 09:45:36 EDT

Hi all-

Keep in mind random wires do not have to be that big, or that visible.

They can be set up in many shapes, or just thrown over a roof or tree. No pruning hassles as long as the length works with your tuner on all bands.

I made one rough comparison between a 40-meter mobile whip and a random wire. Both were operated from my Icom AH-2 tuner in my van from the same location. The tuner was right at the ball/spring mount. A 75' horizontal wire, 7' high at the antenna mount and 10' high at a nearby tree seemed to hear and be heard better than the mobile whip. The tuner was the random-wire/whip type.

A little hard to drive around with though :-\

72, Jay